

Search Strategy Documentation

Topic: Primary Care and Equity in Cancer Services in Saudi Arabia

This document summarizes the electronic database search strategies used to identify studies examining the role of primary care in cancer screening, early detection, referral pathways, and equity of access to cancer services within Saudi Arabia. Searches were conducted across PubMed, Web of Science, and CINAHL databases. Strategies were designed to maximize sensitivity while maintaining relevance to primary care and cancer services.

1. PubMed (MEDLINE)

Search Query:

```
(
"Primary Health Care"[Mesh] OR "Family Practice"[Mesh] OR
primary care OR primary health care OR family medicine OR
family physician* OR general practice OR PHC
)
AND
(
"Neoplasms"[Mesh] OR cancer* OR neoplasm* OR malignan* OR
tumor* OR tumour* OR oncology
)
AND
(
"Early Detection of Cancer"[Mesh] OR "Mass Screening"[Mesh] OR
cancer screening OR early detection OR screening program*
)
AND
(
"Health Services Accessibility"[Mesh] OR "Health Equity"[Mesh] OR
access to care OR equity OR inequity OR disparit* OR underserved OR
referral pathway* OR referral system* OR diagnostic delay*
)
AND
(
"Saudi Arabia"[Mesh] OR "Saudi Arabia" OR KSA OR
"Kingdom of Saudi Arabia"
)
)
```

2. Web of Science

Topic Search (TS):

```
TS=(
("primary care" OR "primary health care" OR family medicine OR
"general practice" OR PHC)
AND
(cancer OR neoplasm* OR malignan* OR tumor* OR tumour* OR oncology)
```

AND
("Saudi Arabia" OR KSA OR "Kingdom of Saudi Arabia")
)

3. CINAHL (EBSCOhost)

Search Query:

(
(MH "Primary Health Care") OR
(MH "Family Practice") OR
"primary care" OR
"primary health care" OR
family medicine OR
general practice OR
PHC
)
AND
(
(MH "Neoplasms+") OR
cancer* OR
neoplasm* OR
oncology OR
malignan* OR
tumor* OR tumour*
)
AND
(
"Saudi Arabia" OR KSA OR "Kingdom of Saudi Arabia"
)

Search Notes

- 1 Searches were designed to maximize retrieval of Saudi Arabia–based studies addressing cancer services within primary care settings.
- 2 Filters such as language, publication year, and human subjects were applied after initial retrieval when appropriate.
- 3 Records retrieved from all databases were exported and deduplicated prior to screening.
- 4 Title and abstract screening was followed by full-text assessment according to predefined eligibility criteria.